ASTU-006/01US Serial No.: 10/661,096 Filed: September 12, 2003 Page 2

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the first paragraph of page 41 of the specification with the following paragraph. The amendments to the first paragraph set forth below are indicated by strikethrough and underlining.

The proxy 920 is configured to receive data on one TCP connection, send the received data out on the other TCP connection, and effect the same function in the other direction. In the example of FIGURE 9, the proxy 920 is comprised of a first protocol core 912 and a second protocol core 916 (collectively represented by protocol core 858 of FIGURE 8), each of which executes embedded software designed to implement the full TCP protocol stack 890. The first protocol core 912 forms a first TCP connection 959 960 with the client 904, while the second protocol core 916 establishes a second TCP connection 954-964 with the server 908.